

FIRST CLASS MAIL



A Publication of
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

THE BLURB

VIRGINIA J. HARING
2113 EDGEHILL ROAD
FURLONG PA
18925

W3IIN
R
18925

PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
W3RQZ • W3TKQ • W3QV

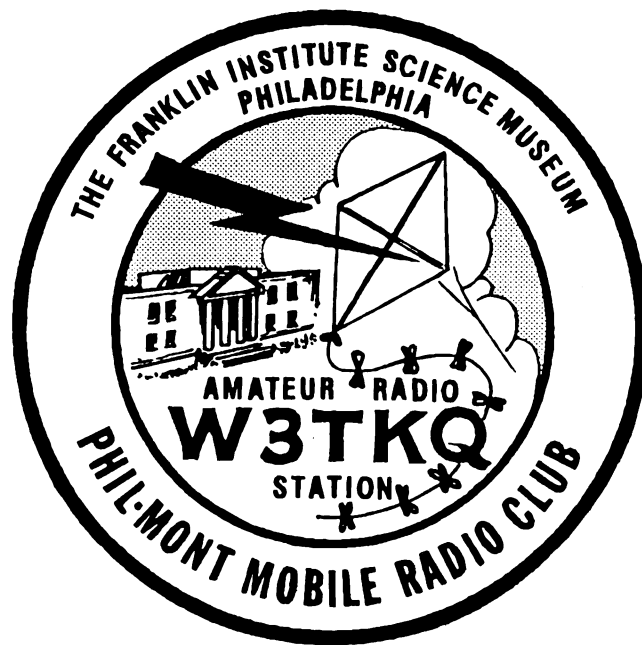
The **BLURB**
January

1992



**The
Wynn Laurence LePage
Memorial Award**

**For Exceptional Dedication
To The Advancement Of Amateur Radio**



**Jacob S. Kovalchek, AK2I
1991**

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10.00 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month
at The Franklin Institute Science Museum-
doors close at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ - **(215) 448-1139**
Repeater frequencies: 147.03 (Bucks County input requires 131.8Hz PL)
444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)
Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz
Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ-10: 145.05 MHz
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB
W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS
W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG
ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128 (215) 487-9472
VICE PRESIDENT: N3GLH, Brad Swanson, 517 Cresheim Valley Road, Wynmoor, PA 19118 (215) 836-2475
SECRETARY: KA3AMO, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-8061
TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (92); KC2HX (92); AK2I (93); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); N2RM (93); W3RM (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives:	W3IIN	Emerg. Coord.:	W3BBB	Repeater:	W3BBB
BLURB:	W3IIM	Membership:	W3IIN	Special Events:	KA3EBC
Budget /Audit:	W3IIN	Net Control:	KB3IV	VE Program:	ND3Q
Directory:	WB3KOJ	Program:	N3GLH	TVI:	WA3AUN
DX:	WA3AUN	Publicity:	-----	W3TKQ:	W3PWG
Education:	N3FTZ	Refreshments:	N3FVI	Welcome:	W3VVS

Special Liaison to The Franklin Institute Science Museum: AK2I

BLURB STAFF

Editor: W3IIM, Jack Haring, 2113 Edgehill Drive, Furlong, PA 18925
215-794-7623

Artist: Sam Kuncevich

N3DHI, WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIN

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy **MUST** be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET
LAST WED	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET



APPLE BYTES

Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 Rose Gold (XYL K2ID)
George Starks - AA2FU
03 Rita Gutman (XYL W3FOG)
13 Jonathan Balch - W3KG
15 Karen Lenczynski (XYL KA3EIP)
16 Susan Starks (XYL AA2FU)
17 Lee Kovnat (XYL WB3JUA)
Eileen Weigand (XYL KA3EBC)
18 Marion Bubeck (XYL K3GNM)
19 Babs Clayton (XYL K3HIE)
William T. Mescanti - WB3CMM
23 Milton Soss - N3AN
24 Edward L. Muse - WA3MRP
27 Susan Markowitz (XYL N3IZZ)
28 Robert G. Schmilewske - K3KUD
29 Laura Sims (XYL N3HML)
30 Vira Johnston (XYL K3VXU)
31 James P. Faries - W3AOA
Frederick W. Reichert, Sr. - KA3BET

HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership?

Remember: The ARRL is more than just a subscription!

Help PHIL-MONT by joining or renewing through the club.

Contact KB3IV for the details.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

With the December BLURB you received your 1992 DUES INVOICE AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION SHEET. Please check your info and return to KB3IV with your dues.... Your early reply will insure that your name is included in the 1992 directory which will be included in the April issue of the BLURB.

80th MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS DECEMBER

23 candidates pass 34 elements
5 new amateurs plus 12 upgrades

VE team members:

Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman

Steve Hoch, KA3AMO; Lee Pamplin, N3EKR; Niel Leone, W3FZR;
Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W; Bob Forrester, NS3Z

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST
NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM *sharp*

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
SCIENCE MUSEUM

For Information Call ND3Q at
(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505

Accessible by the handicapped.



Sam's
CORNER

FRISKY
JINNY
W3IIN

HAD A FEW
PHIL-MONTES
DUCKING HEADS
AS HER SWORD
SLICED THE AIR
IN HER DANCE.



The PREZ SEZ

Bill Popovic, N3FV

Welcome 1992.

Now that we all survived October 23rd, the polish pigeon, and the code-free Tech. license, we can plan this year's goals. If you have a club project in mind, bring it up at a Directors' meeting. Any member is welcome to attend.

Most PMRC activities are run by the same few members. Club improvements require a team effort. If you're not involved, please make it one of your New Year's resolutions to participate in a club activity.

I would like to wish all members and their families a healthy and happy new year.

"DON'T TAILGATE—WAIT"—for the courtesy chime!

License Classes at The Franklin Institute

Adult/Teen *New!*
Workshops

Ham Radio Course
Ages: 10 - Adult

You've seen the astronaut seen and heard the satellite around in space. Now it's time to learn about Amateur Radio and its many aspects involving communications to the two space vehicles. In ten short weeks, you have the opportunity to get your No Code Technician's Class FCC License needed in order to talk into Space and to the world! Your instructors are licensed Amateur Radio Operators and the workshop will help you in preparing your examination.

Sponsored by the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, responsible for the Institute's Ham Radio Course.

W3TKQ, located on the 4th floor of the museum.

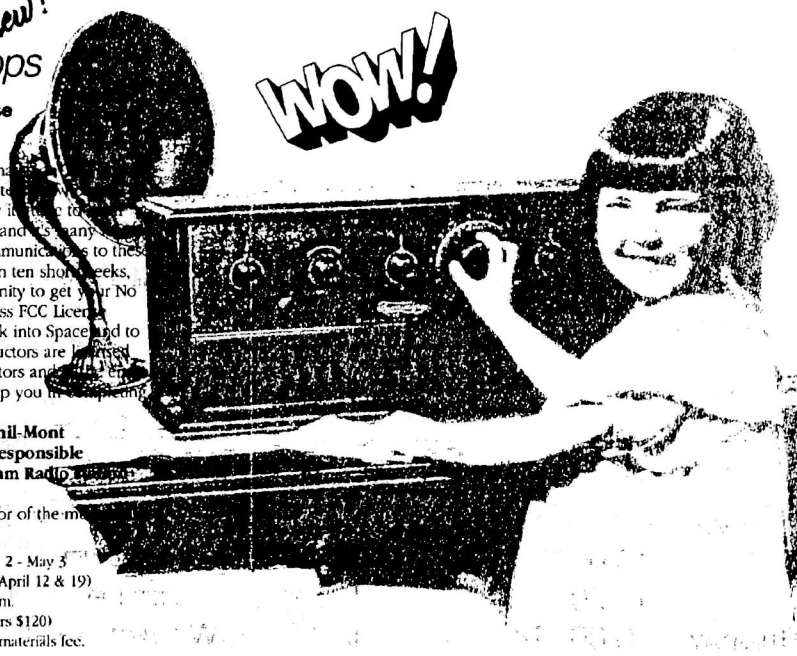
Event Code: HAMRAD

Date: Sunday, Feb. 2 - May 3
(No class March 8, 15 & April 12 & 19)

Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fee: \$130 (Members \$120)
Includes \$20 materials fee.

Weeks: Ten



LOOKAHEAD

Jan 2 License Examinations
Jan 8 **General Meeting Program:**
Video Tapes from the Archives

Jan 15 Directors' Meeting at W3TKQ

Feb 5 **General Meeting**
Feb 6 License Examinations

Feb 12 Directors' Meeting at
KA3AMO&N3FTC's

Mar 4 **General Meeting**
Mar 5 License Examinations

Mar 18 Directors' Meeting at
KB3IV&N3GLU's

HAMFESTS



Mar 1 YORK, PA

Mar 14 FLEMINGTON, NJ

Apr 24-26 DAYTON, OH
Hamvention

May 17 WRIGHTSTOWN, PA
Warminster ARC

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1992 test fee is \$5.40; there is no charge for a Novice test.

University of Pennsylvania ARC offers VE Tests

Moore Building, Room 216, 33rd & Walnut St. Entrance (SW corner)

Last Saturday of each month starting Jan. 25

Talk-in on 146.685 & 442.700 — Doors close at 10:30 AM sharp

Contact WN3A — (215) 898-8538 or (215) 386-7199

BELLMAWR, NJ
Monthly, 3rd Thursday
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

CENTER CITY PHILA.
Monthly, 1st Thursday
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 482-0386
(215) 879-0505

BRYN MAWR
Bob Haase, W3SA
(215) 293-1919

RICHBORO
Dave Munson, NM3K
(215) 788-7515

TELFORD
Monthly, 3rd Monday
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

LEVITTOWN
Monthly, 1st Thursday
Dave Heller, K3TX
(215) 946-1040
(215) 736-3333

WARMINSTER
Jan 29, Mar 4
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

CONDUCTING A CLUB MEETING

When conducting a club meeting the Parliamentary Rules must be followed and all business should be presented briefly, but correctly.

When all members are seated, the President calls the meeting to order, welcomes the members and any guests that might be attending the meeting. At this time the President may ask the members and guests to introduce themselves.

The Secretary reads the minutes from the previous meeting. The President will ask if any corrections or additions are to be made to the minutes, if none the minutes will be accepted as read.

Old business will be the first item to be brought up, if any additions, these will be recorded by the club Secretary.

Next, new business will be placed before the membership. The members can

bring up any ideas they have on the subject being discussed.

The Secretary will record these items. To avoid unnecessary discussion and getting off the subject, the President must make sure to keep the meeting moving on, without anyone getting upset if possible.

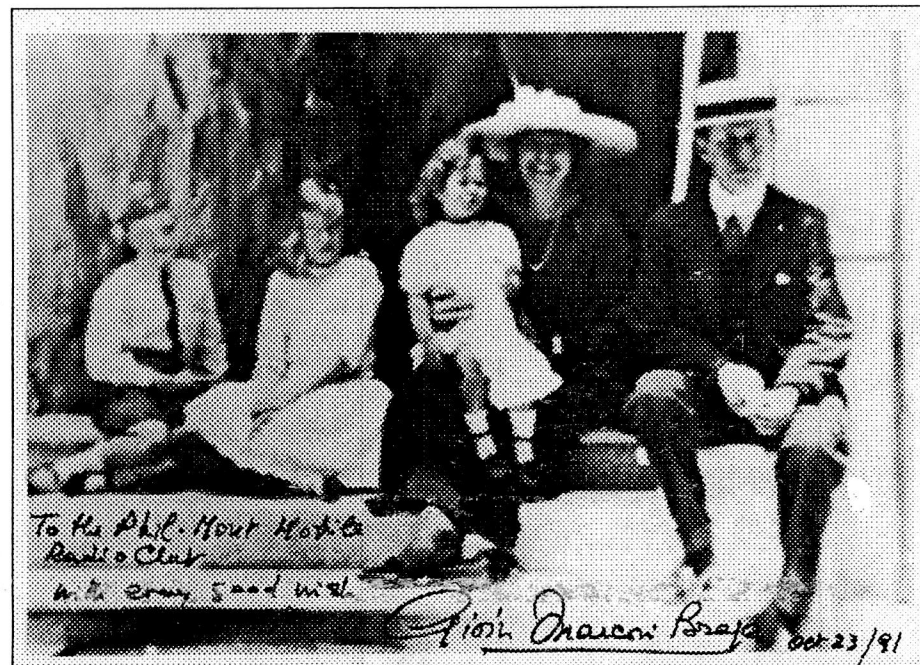
The next order of business is for the Treasurer to give the Financial Report.

The next item would be for the different committees to give their reports and plans for future activities.

When no further business is to be brought before the membership, the President may adjourn the meeting.

When a club meeting is conducted according to the Parliamentary Rules, and with firmness, many problems are avoided and the meeting should not take too long.

Sussex ARC





Marconi International
Fellowship Council
Mrs. Gioia Marconi Braga
Chairperson
Dr. George Bugliarelo
Secretary
Dr. Walter Or Roberts
Secretary Emeritus

Mr. Charles F. Adams
Raytheon Company
Mr. Robert McC. Adams
Smithsonian Institution
Avv. Giovanni Agnelli
Fiat S.p.A.
Dr. Diego Agnes
R.A.I.
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IBM Corporation
Mrs. Vincent Astor
The Vincent Astor Foundation
Dr. William O. Baker
AT&T Bell Laboratories
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Ing. Umberto De Julo
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Dott. Alfredo Diana
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COMSAT
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Mr. Fabrizio Serena di Lapigio
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Mr. Burton Steiner
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Company
Mr. Sidney Topol
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November 5, 1991

Mr. Jake Kovalchek
Director
The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc.
1228 Heartwood Drive
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-2740

Dear Mr. Kovalchek,

This is just a note to thank you and your wife for all the kindnesses to me on the occasion of my visit to Philadelphia.

It was a great pleasure and honor to be asked to "officially open" the display and I enjoyed meeting your distinguished guests as well as the very special group of radio amateurs gathered for the occasion.

Since you had told me that you had a photo of me with my mother (which turned out to be one of my brother as a baby instead) I thought you would enjoy this one I am sending you for your collection. It is not too good as it's a reprint from an old family album. However it does include me (sitting on my mother's lap) with my brother Giulio and my sister Degna (who later wrote the book: *My Father Marconi*) completing the family group.

I hope you will send me any newspaper cuttings if there were any published on that occasion.

Again, with very many thanks and every good wish,

Sincerely,

Gioia Marconi Braga
Chairperson

Enc.

A Program to Recognize Creative Work in Communications Science or Technology
and its Benefit to Humanity

MINUTES

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

N3FVI called the meeting to order. 34 members and 7 visitors were in attendance.

KB3IV reported on the state of the treasury which still has funds is it.

W3IIN had one application to be voted on at the December Board of Directors meeting.

KB3IV will be submitting a new net schedule, but he says that anyone still interested who has not contacted him can still do so.

If anyone wants to host a mid-month next year, please contact N3FVI.

The American Cancer Association Bikeathon will be held on July 12th if you want to put it on your schedule for your participation.

AK2I said order information is in the December Blurb for tapes, hats, patches, shirts, etc. to help pay for W3TKQ. He said a home in the console has not yet been found for the ATV station.

N3DHI said a professionally done tape is available on the repeater.

Phil-Mont Awards were handed out to W3BBB, *President's Award*; W3IIN, *Le-Roy Hauser*; ND3Q, *Phil-Monter of the Year*; and AK2I, *Wynn Laurence LePage Memorial Award* (see cover).

W3RM won both of the two prize drawings of the evening—the 50-50 and the Polish Road Runner. The chances of that happening are probably at least 1 in 500.

AK2I was the Judge of Elections and he spoke about the candidates and also allowed them equal time to speak on their own behalf.

The winners of the election were: N3FVI President, N3GLH Vice President, KB3IV Treasurer, KA3AMO Secretary, AK2I and N2RM Directors.

Respectfully Submitted, Robert R. Moore, N2RM, Secretary

(Unofficial) MINUTES

DECEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 PM by N3FVI at the home of W3IIN&N.

KB3IV reported that the treasury had a balance of \$276.80 after an income of \$181, and an expense of \$605.53 (this obviously does not reflect the wedding expenses from the slush fund).

Archives Committee: W3IIN is working on a photo book and video tapes.

Blurb Committee: a 1992 mid-month schedule was fleshed out, and some months are still open to any volunteers. Available are Sept. Oct. and Nov.

The minutes were read from the last Board meeting.

New member: James Parker, N3KGH, was voted on and accepted.

Programs in the works from the Vice President:

1. Proper installation of a mobile rig (your way or the right way).
2. Kay Craigie WT3P (ex-KC3LM).
3. Cellular communications today!
4. Fels Planetarium

5. Repeater anthology videotape by N3DHI

6. Guest speaker from the Franklin Institute

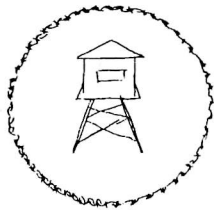
Repeater Committee: The uhf transmitter is at WA3UTI for repair. The receiver is still up for uhf input to 147.03

Volunteer Exams: AK2I reported that he had received a Certificate of Appreciation on 3/31/91 to be forwarded to ND3Q.

W3TKQ Report: AK2I reported that he had received a letter from Mrs. Braga, thanking him for the invitation, and including a picture of her as a child to include in our collection. The satellite antennas were reported down from the weekend's big blow-through this way, and at this writing they have been taken down and are being readied to be re-erected (12/21/91). The dedicated rig for 147.03, and the PK232MBX both had problems, but have been remedied by this writing.

Respectfully Submitted: Stephen C. Hoch, KA3AMO [secretary elect]

PERRY T. BLUM, N3AXJ



Ex POW—Stalag 17B

The time is July 27th, 1943. Our B-17 was at the bottom of the North Sea, and our German captors had brought us into the train station in Hamburg.

Picture how you would feel if you had just lost your home and members of your family, and the guys responsible are standing there in front of you! At this point, we were more frightened than we were at crashing in the ocean.

The angry crowds were shouting obscenities and spitting on us, but our guards protected us and got us into a boxcar and on our way to a camp for interrogation.

Our wounded navigator and bombardier were sent to a hospital, and we later learned they were exchanged for German wounded prisoners.

At the interrogation camp we were each kept in a small, very uncomfortable room with a bed and toilet. Our meals consisted of soup, bread, and water. The next day, I was escorted to an office with a German officer seated behind a desk. This guy spoke perfect English—no accent at all. He proceeded to tell me he was from the Frankford section of Philadelphia, and had lived there several years. I don't know to this day how he knew I was from Philly.

They questioned me for a couple of days on the radio code I used on each mission. I just kept telling them that the code for each mission was printed on an edible piece of paper and it was gone.

Our pilot and co-pilot were sent to a camp in north Germany. The rest of us were loaded into a boxcar and headed for a camp in Frankfurt, Germany. From there we were moved to Stalag 17B, which was located near the town of Krems, Austria, about 50 miles northwest of Vienna. The camp was exclusively Air Force prisoners.

We learned from the German guards that when Hitler achieved his world domination he would have a ready-trained air force to police the world.

I am always asked—how did they treat you, and was it anything like the Hollywood picture "Stalag 17?" The answer to these is rotten and no. Here is a description of our living conditions: The large, double-ended barracks were made of very rough wood. At the end of each set of barracks was a large latrine (outhouse style). The stench was evident throughout the compound, constantly.

Inside the barracks were long lines of double bunks made of the same rough wood as the buildings. The bunks were supplied with mattresses made of burlap and filled with straw, and saturated with a generous supply of lice and fleas. Each barracks had a pot-belly stove used for heat in the winter, with one bucket of coal per day.

You cannot imagine how bad the food was. One large wooden bucket of dehydrated cabbage soup per barracks, no extra charge for the worms, dark brown bread, which I think was made from saw dust, and a bucket of some kind of tea for breakfast. (To this day, I cannot tolerate the smell of cabbage cooking!)

We were supposed to get a Red Cross food parcel each week, but the local civilians and German army stole them. We averaged one parcel every five to six weeks. A food parcel consisted of five packs of cigarettes, one chocolate bar, two cans of meat,

THE W 3 T K Q REPORT

The Franklin Institute Science Museum

by
Jake Kovalchek,
AK2I

It would be easy to write a column about W3TKQ and reflect on the great year of 1991, and all the joy it brought so many people that were involved with the station. But that's history, and there are more important things to write about: the challenge of the year ahead for example.

The one thing the station needs now is more volunteers to fill-in some serious gaps that have appeared in our shiny armor. These are not to be construed as faults by any means, but merely adjustments that need to be made in an otherwise super beginning. You see, the volunteers, at this time, give on average about 285 hours per month, and without getting involved in a lot of meaningless statistics, that's about 10 hours per month per volunteer. The problem is that this is simply not enough, and without more volunteers we cannot ask the present staff to take up the load, because presently they are about as efficient as they can get.

The problem, as I see it, is numbers of men and women. In my opinion, we need at least 20 more to fill out the timetable.

So please, before I am forced to go outside of the club for more volunteers, I would appreciate all able bodied men and women of Phil-Mont to step forward and volunteer for at least four hours in one week, a morning or an afternoon that might be free. You will be pleasantly surprised at the joy and satisfaction you will feel as a result of your action. Give it a try, it will cost you nothing but your time, and the fellowship you gain is immeasurable. Please Volunteer!

Help Us Celebrate The 286th Birthday of Ben Franklin January 17, 18, 19—at W3TKQ

We plan to have a "Special Event Station" at the Franklin Institute, using Voice, RTTY, S, Satellite, and probably ATV.

We are now awaiting the arrival of our new QSL cards, and they indeed are beautiful. Jack, W3IIM, has taken some remarkable shots of the station and has put together a QSL card that will serve us proud. We will be offering all those contacts a new QSL card and another piece of information about Ben Franklin that the Institute will furnish. Hopefully we will be able to provide "Worked All States" for that weekend, and will try to do it on several bands and in different modes.

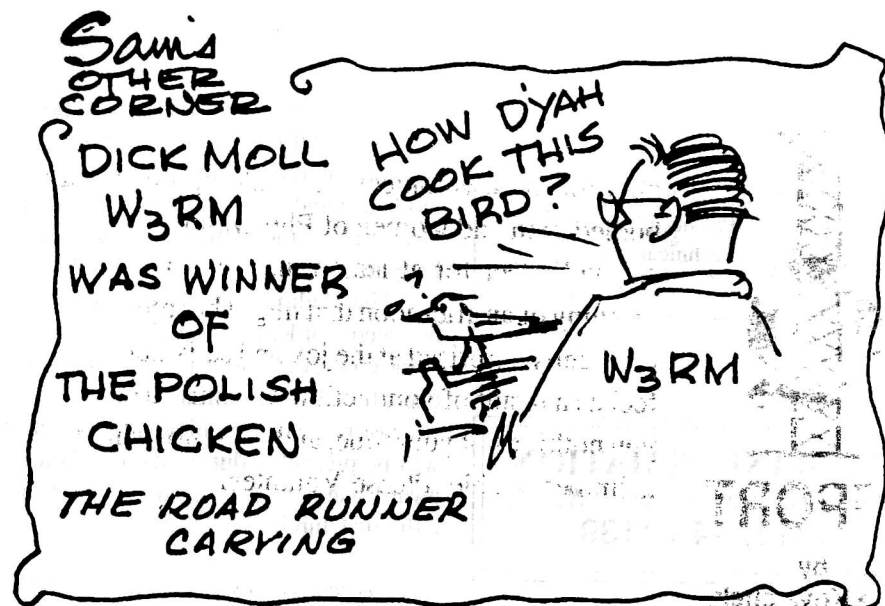
By the way, the donor who made those QSL cards possible is WA3AUN, Dr. Mark Ackerman, and to you Doc, thanks so very much for your generosity.

What we need are Volunteers to work the station for that weekend, and here's the

plus: YOU DO NOT have to be a regular Volunteer in order to come down and work the station. You must, of course, be a member of Phil-Mont, and agree to come down for at least a four-hour period or longer. What we will try to do is to team you up with a regular volunteer to help you get set up with the equipment, and to get you started on your way. In that way you can serve a very valuable function of helping your club, as well as providing some needed time for the volunteer organization in general.

Please, if you're interested in helping out, just for that weekend, please let me know on the repeater, or call me at (609) 428-5924 anytime, and I will try to coordinate your time slot for you into one that will satisfy you and the club's needs.

AK2I



one can of butter, a jar of instant coffee, and a can of powdered milk. If you didn't smoke, you could trade the cigarettes for bread or eggs from the German guards.

Escape plans were always in operation. The Germans let these go on for a while, just to keep us occupied. Very few escape attempts were successful. We were sure there were informants among us.

The biggest morale builders we had were the crystal radios we built from parts we acquired from the guards with cigarettes. We would listen to the propaganda from Berlin, as well as London, and make our own conclusions as to how the war was going.

Because of the filthy surroundings, everyone had sickness of some kind. The absence of calcium and vitamins in our food lowered our resistance to many diseases, and many did not make it back.

After almost two years of this I had lost 40 pounds, and was in poor health. The war was going badly for Hitler. The Russians

were approaching from the east, and the Americans from the west. The Germans force-marched us away from the Russians. On the 25th of April, 1945, after a 300 kilometer march, an advance scout party of Americans freed us.

FOR SALE

KENWOOD TS820-S \$475
HEATH SB200 AMP \$225

*Both in mint condition
Property of K3OJA*

If purchased as a package—\$675 with a Heath "Cantenna" dummy load included.

Contact Bill Mescanti, WB3CMM
215-972-0128 until 3 PM
215-623-3501 after 6 PM

MORE CLASSES FORMING

Listed below are all the classes known to us at presstime.

Center City	Novice & Tech	Begins February 2	N3FTZ	(215) 448-1139
Cheltenham	Novice	Begins February 27	Delmont RC	
Lansdale	Novice	Begins March	KD3QR	(215) 584-5031
Radnor	Novice & Tech	Begins January 11	W4VRP	(215) 525-6583
Souderton	No-Code Tech	Begins January 30	NX3S	
Warminster	Nov/Tech/Gen	Begins March 3	K3EBZ (after 7pm)	(215) 672-5487

Class coordinators are encouraged to publish information well in advance of their starting dates to give other clubs the opportunity to spread the word via their newsletters.

NEW NET ON '03

In the interest of keeping all of the W3TKQ operator/volunteers fully informed, Jake has established an operators' net to be held at 20:00 on the last Wednesday of every month.

Experiences with Antennas for Apartment Dwellers

Louis W. Moxey, N3CZB

Antennas make the difference. Power is just the icing on the cake! If you want DX, your antenna must be capable of sending your signal in the right direction and at the right angle above the horizon. If it doesn't, you won't get that DX station—you may not even hear it.

When I first became interested in amateur radio back in 1919 at age 11 (it was then called "wireless"), my father assisted me.

Among other things, he put up a single wire antenna between supports attached to the two chimneys of our twin-type house. The equipment was placed on an old table in the basement and consisted of a long tapped coil, a capacitor, a galena crystal, and headphones. We heard time signals from NAA in Arlington, Virginia, and some local naval and commercial stations. I had to learn the code immediately, as that was all there was. Later, we replaced the crystal with a vacuum tube detector and then added two stages of audio amplification. Most importantly, we added a spark coil, gap, capacitor made of glass photographic plates and foil, and coils made of brass ribbon for a transmitter.

Subsequently, the antenna was changed to a four-wire "flat top" and a counterpoise was added. The spark transmitter was replaced with a vacuum tube and I acquired a license (3BFL, later changed to W3BFL). I worked hams around town, but none outside the local area. When we moved the rig to the second floor, shortening the lead-in. There

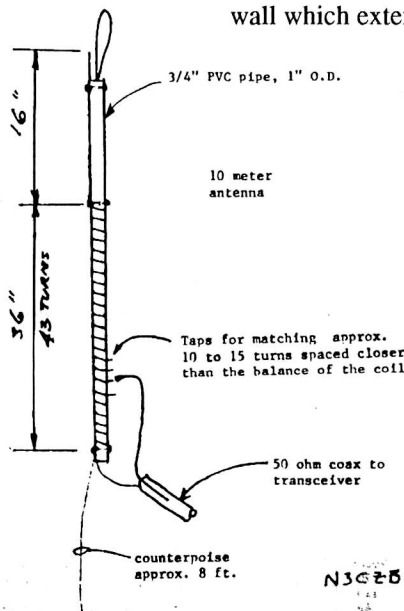
was no difference in operation. But I noticed that when I pressed the key the light in the hall would glow cherry red!

The house was wired "knob and tube" with no metallic enclosure for the wires, so I was putting out power. But some, if not most, was going into the house wiring. Another concern at the time was the fact that the antenna was about five feet above and parallel to the metal flashing on top of the party wall which extended above the roof.

In 1928, we moved to a single house where a long wire antenna could be erected, which turned out to be an end-fed Zepp. It was about 20 feet above the ground, the far end being attached to a tree. The tree was in an area where a street was later cut through, so that antenna did not last long enough to have a good trial.

Shortly after, I got married and moved to a twin house with a back yard. The garage was in the rear basement, so the second floor where the rig would be placed was equivalent to a third floor as far as height above ground was concerned. Also, behind the lot in the back of the common driveway, there were several Lombardy poplar trees, not exactly what one would use for an antenna support. But I had seen it done somewhere, with a pulley, rope, and sash weight. The antenna was center fed with tuned feeders—a center-fed Zepp. At 40 meters it was a dipole, but I was going to use 20 meters. Many believed it would not work.

Soon after completing the antenna, I was delightfully surprised to hear a French



N3CZB

HAM RADIO OPERATORS RECOGNIZED

The Suburban & Wayne Times

Recognition was given to a group of area amateur radio operators during the recent rededication ceremony of a special service amateur radio station at the Franklin Institute.

Newtown Square amateur radio operators Dr. and Mrs. Carter Craigie were among those honored at the Franklin Institute Oct. 23. The program featured Mrs. Gioia Marconi Braga, daughter of radio experimenter Marconi, as both a featured speaker and award recipient.

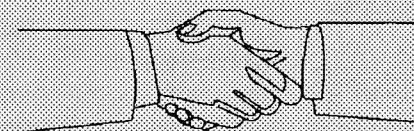
Shaw was honored for his assistance in building the first amateur radio station at the Franklin Institute. It was immediately well received. He was also a trustee of this station, W3TKQ, serving in that position from 1952-1975.

Shaw said, "This beautiful station being dedicated today takes me back in memory to the time when W3TKQ was first operated in the 'Electrical Hall' some 40 years ago."

The rebirth of this display was possible largely through the assistance of Kay Craigie, an active member of the Mid-Atlantic [Radio Club] and vice director of the Atlantic Division of the American Radio Relay League.

The Radio Club of America has announced that Kay Craigie has been elected to the Grade of Fellow, in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the art and science of radio communications. The award will be presented during the club's annual award banquet Nov. 22 at the New York Athletic Club in New York City.

[Kay recently received her new call—WT3P.]



NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

CALL: KA3WWK
NAME: Benjamin Persofsky
HANDLE: Ben
CLASS: Technician
ADDRESS: 7121 Souder Street
 Philadelphia, PA
 (215) 745-1416
HOME PHONE:
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Student
INTERESTS: W3TKQ, Net Control

CALL: AB3C
NAME: John Kane, Jr.
HANDLE: John
CLASS: Extra
ADDRESS: Box 373
 Ardmore, PA 19003
HOME PHONE: (215) 642-1836
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 642-1836
OCCUPATION: Physicist
INTERESTS: Technical

CLUB INFORMATION

24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

Even the interior partitions had steel studs!

The windows were about 5 square feet, of two sashes 5 feet high by 2-1/2 feet wide, set in aluminum frames. As far as could be ascertained by tests, the window frames were not grounded. However, it did not seem like a good idea to use those frames as an antenna because they were common to the frames in the next apartment.

We tried all kinds of arrangements. Management frowned upon hanging anything out the window because it would interfere with the window cleaners; although it was tried temporarily with some success.

We finally decided to try hanging a helical vertical in the window. Actually, this was one half of the slinky, the top being arranged to hang from an insulator and the bottom resting on a ceramic tile on the sill. It was, in effect, a helical vertical 4 inches in diameter and nearly 60 inches long. The number of turns was varied experimentally. The former loaded dipole was dropped to the floor. We constructed a trans-match out of spare parts and made contacts on 28, 21, 14, and 7 MHz. When the loaded dipole was completely disconnected, the antenna could not be tuned. A counterpoise was needed!

The helical vertical proved to be the most appropriate of all arrangements. After much experimentation, the best versions of the helical were 26 turns of one half of the slinky mounted on one window for 28 and 21 MHz; and 60 turns of the other half, mounted in an adjacent window, for 14 and 7 MHz. The latter required using three nylon cords to hold every tenth turn, so that only the unused turns were bunched together at the sill.

For 21 and 28 MHz it was necessary to cut quarter-wave counterpoise wires and connect them to the ground terminal. These were laid on the floor below the window and along the walls. With a purchased tuner, this arrangement gave 1.5 or lower SWR on the bands normally used—7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz. During the 1990 Ten Meter Contest, when propagation was good, QSOs were

made with F, YU, I, PA, KL7, and J. Only the last two were expected; the others were shielded by part of the building!

The best results are currently obtained on 21 and 28 MHz. Reports are often one to three S-points lower than given to the station being received, but under the conditions imposed by this location it is satisfying to be able to have QSOs over a reasonable area, with 50 watts input to the transmitter.

If you are on a restricted budget or have limited space for an antenna, don't give up. "Where there's a will, there's a way!"

In further experimenting, after the above was published, it was found that vertical orientation was better than horizontal. It was also found that coils wound on a one inch form (3/4" PVC pipe) gave better results than the 4" diameter coils, at least on 10, 15 and 20 meters.

Using the ARRL Antenna book description of a "short helical wound vertical antenna" (page 10-11 of the 14th edition) as a guide, coils were wound for 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters as shown in the drawings.

Having acquired a Radio Shack HTX-100 10 meter transceiver, the 10 meter antenna was built with a matching section so as to have it available for 10 meters without the tuner [that is] used for the other bands. Two antennas are therefore always available, one in each of the two panes of the window. In fact, for a quick change, the 15 meter antenna can be operated on 20 or 40 meters with the MFJ 001 B tuner. Home brew tuners will also work, however, the larger antennas work better on the longer wavelengths.

[Submitted by "The Northern Reporter" who appended the following:]

Louis PXY's "grandfather-in-law" who lives in Doylestown, PA. PXY's trying to get him on 2 meters; and has sent him W3SRU's antenna design.

You guys with \$300 antennas should try this for \$6.50! Results are 120 contacts in two days—that even beats PXY's \$11 budget limit!

station answer my call! Subsequently, other European countries were contacted. In addition to being two half-waves in phase, the antenna was accidentally oriented so that the beams pointed northeast from Philadelphia, just right for Europe. But this did not last long: The pulley rusted and froze, the rope was worn by rubbing, and a puff of wind brought the antenna down.

But now I knew what would work. So I built a guyed wood pole in the back yard, of necessity closer to the house; yet the rig was now operated on 10-meter phone. The new antenna, also a center-fed Zepp, was oriented so that the broadside faced west and resulted in a number of QSOs with W6s. Shortly afterwards, World War II was upon us and the rig was put in "moth balls" for the crisis' duration.

By the time the war ended, my family had found other interests, such as spending time at the seashore. It wasn't until 1982, when I was asked to look into an interference problem between two public service radio stations, that I thought about ham radio. A trip to the library to look up RFI references re-kindled my interest in the hobby. Why not now? I was retired and had the time and energy to start over. I could still read the code, though at a reduced speed. With a license manual and some code practice, I acquired a general license with the call N3CZB.

The question was where to erect an antenna in the garden-type apartment in

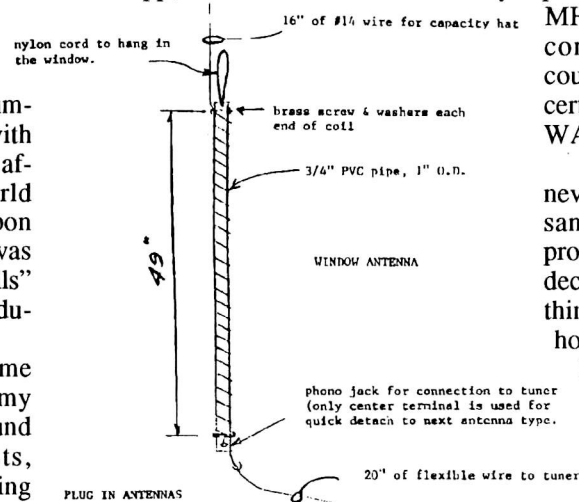
which we now lived. The apartment was in a one-story building shaped like a U with square corners. In the opening of the U was a garden area of about 17 square feet. Fortunately, some years before we had requested and received permission to install a 20-foot flag pole in the garden area. Using this pole, the antenna became a sloping dipole cut for 21 MHz. Though it was rebuilt later for 14 MHz in order to reduce RFI, it was the best antenna ever! We altered it several times, finally turning it into a tri-bander for 28, 21, and 14 MHz. A supplementary indoor antenna was a slinky dipole 12 feet long, for 7 MHz. With these, we contacted many DX countries and received certificates for WAS and WAC.

But conditions never seem to remain the same very long. Approaching 80 years, we decided that we should think about a retirement home. In fact, recent

health problems with the XYL indicate that this was a good move. Our retirement community was in an eight-story fireproof building without balconies or terraces—

just about the worst place to erect an antenna. To place it on the roof, if permitted, would require a transmission line over 200 feet long!

The original plan was to use a loaded, vertical dipole for 28 MHz, both near the window. But these did not work as planned. The 28 MHz vertical had to be close to the glass and the slinky did not perform at all. No wonder there was too much steel in the building. The floors were reinforced concrete planks, as were the exterior walls.



Band	Turns
10	270
20	110
15	48
10	43

use any available wire size for low power (20-50 watts) #16 to #26

N3CZB

1992

JANUARY

1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<i>Cynics have no heros.</i>		1 NEW YEAR's DAY	2 LICENSE EXAMS at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 PM <i>sharp!</i>	3	4
5 2M NCS K3JJO 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG <i>Twelfth Night</i>	6	7 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	8 GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 PM Meeting starts at 7:30	9	10 <i>Judy Garland 1922</i>	11
12 2M NCS NS3Y 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA	13 AUDIT COMMITTEE Langhorne-7:30 PM (talk-in on '03)	14 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>Albert Schweitzer 1875</i>	15 DIRECTORS' MEETING at W3TKQ	16	17 W3TKQ —"Special Event Station" at The Franklin Institute, celebrating Franklin's 286th birthday <i>Ben Franklin 1706</i>	18
19 2M NCS NA2E 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE W3TKQ "Special Event Station"	20 <i>M.L. King 1929</i>	21 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	22 REPEATER COMMITTEE MEETING at N3GLH's	23	24 <i>Vietnam War 1973</i>	25
26 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I <i>Douglas MacArthur 1880</i>	27 <i>W.A. Mozart 1756</i>	28 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>U.S. Coast Guard</i> <i>Established 1915</i>	29 'TKQ OPERATOR's NET at 8 PM	30 <i>F.D. Roosevelt 1882</i>	31	